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AND ASTORIA DAILY NEWS

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THE BELT OVERCOAT



Quite the most distinguished looking of the many good overcoats we are showing is this

Hart, Schaffner & Marx

"belt overcoat." The belt is the back only—doesn't go all the way 'round. The coat, however, is an "all-round" style garment; has all the characteristics of the Hart, Schaffner & Marx product—style fine tailoring, best quality.

Hart Schaffner & Marx
Hand Tailored

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P. A. STOKES

HOTEL PORTLAND

The Finest Hotel in the Northwest

PORTLAND. OREGON.

ARE YOU PERPLEXED?

Some one to remember and what shall I give? Let us help you. Our clerks are all experienced in Xmas trade and will willingly give you every attention and while our Xmas stock is rapidly diminishing we are carrying the largest in this part of the state. We shall be able to supply something appropriate until Santa arrives.

J. N. GRIFFIN.

You Need a Bath

AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

You might as well bathe in the river as in an old wooden tub, but there is no occasion for doing either so long as up-to-date bath tubs can be had reasonably. Talk with us about the matter.

W. J. SCULLEY

470-472 Commercial. Phone Black 2243

Up to the Holidays

we shall sell at 20 per cent. reduction from regular price the following goods:

Benedicts Quadruple Silver Plated Knives, Forks and Spoons, Berry Spoons, Fruit Spoons, Sugar Spoons, Butter Knives, etc.

Also Silver Plated Table Ware for Children, Such as Knives, Forks, Spoons and Mugs.

FOARD & STOKES COMP'NY

THREAT MADE BY CRAZY MAN

Demand for \$5,000 From New York—Believed to Have Been Work of Fool.

OFFICIALS TOOK NO CHANCES

Letter Was Made Up of Words Clipped From Papers and Threatened Destruction of the Train if Demand Was Refused.

New York, Dec. 21.—It has been learned, according to a World dispatch from New Haven, Conn., that the action of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad officials recently in putting the night express from New York to Boston under heavy armed guards was due to a demand for \$5000. The letter, which threatened the entire destruction of the train if the money were not forthcoming, was made by pasting together on a sheet of paper words clipped from newspapers. President Meilen, who is quoted as confirming the receipt of the letter, says he believes it was the work of a fool, but that he decided to take every precaution, hence the guards. Nothing more has been heard from the writer.

NEW COAL DISCOVERY.

Rich Find Said to Have Been Made in Schuylkill County, Pa.

Pottsville, Pa., Dec. 21.—Much excitement has been caused here by reports from Auchey's Station, Schuylkill county, of the discovery of beds of pure anthracite coal far beyond the limits of what has heretofore been considered the southern boundary of the hard coal region in Pennsylvania. Many farmers in the district have begun to prospect for veins on their property.

GAYNOR PAYS HIS BONDSMEN

Fugitive Reimburses Men Whom He Left in Lurch for \$40,000.

New York, Dec. 21.—Colonel John F. Gaynor, who fled to Quebec to escape trial in connection with the Savannah harbor scandals and left his bondsmen in the lurch for \$40,000, is reported in a dispatch from Syracuse, N. Y., to have made good the loss to William B. Kirk.

Kirk visited Gaynor at Quebec recently and upon returning to Syracuse called a conference of the Gaynor family. Members of the family then journeyed to Canada and reports of the reimbursement followed.

Captain Merriman Dead.
Alameda, Dec. 21.—Captain Robert L. Merriman, one of the oldest and best known sea captains sailing from New York, is dead. He was born in Brunswick, Me., in 1830. He came to Alameda recently from Boston.

READY TO GO TO PANAMA.

Paul Jones and Preble Will Sail From San Francisco Wednesday.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—The torpedo boat destroyers Paul Jones and Preble are lying at the Mare Island navy yard, coaled and ready for sea, awaiting the coming of officers from the east. The officers are now on their way to the navy yard and it is expected that the warships will sail next Wednesday to Panama. A crew for the training ship Independence has been placed on the Paul Jones, and the Preble has also a full complement. Both vessels, however, lack a number of officers.

A DETERMINED BRIDEGROOM.

Unable to Secure Carriages, He Takes Bride to Church in Ambulance.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Determined that the striking livery drivers and the resulting famine of carriages should not interfere with his wedding, Antonio Locasco, manager for a commission firm, has hired a hospital ambulance and driven his prospective bride and a bridal party in triumph to the church of the Assumption, where the ceremony was performed.

Strike pickets who endeavored to stay the progress of the gaily bedecked ambulance wagon through the streets were brushed aside and outdistanced by the fast running vehicle,

which was driven at a gallop all the way to the church from the home of the bride.

Property-owners residing on Commercial street between Forty-third and Forty-fifth streets, and in that vicinity have filed a remonstrance against any improvement of that thoroughfare, saying the improvement if made would be an unnecessary expense to them, that they have all the streets they can pay for, and all that they need at present. The remonstrance is signed by Fred Lindstrom, John Enberg, L. H. Henningsen, Mary H. Leinenweber, Mrs. W. Brown and Maria S. Agren. It may be mentioned in connection with the remonstrance that so far no improvement of that part of the street in question is in contemplation, so evidently the remonstrators want to tie in on the ground floor, as it were.

In No Hurry to Finish Its Work

Goes on Record as Favoring Consideration of Other Than Tax Matters.

Salem, Dec. 21.—(Special)—At 10 o'clock this morning the Oregon legislature convened in extraordinary session pursuant to the proclamation of Governor Chamberlain. Both houses duly organized with the old officers throughout.

A joint committee from both houses waited upon Governor Chamberlain, informing the executive that the legislature was prepared to receive any message he might care to place before it. The message was an unusually short one, dealing only with tax legislation. The reading of the message was followed by prolonged applause.

(The full text of the message will be found on page 6.)

Upon the presentation of a resolution by Representative Bilyeu the house went on record as being opposed to confining itself to tax legislation only by referring the resolution, which was to that effect, to the committee on resolutions. The house then adjourned until 11 o'clock tomorrow morning out of respect to the memory of Representative Murphy, of Union county, deceased. The republicans of both houses are holding a caucus this afternoon for the purpose of outlining a program of proceeding for the session.

The senate passed a memorial to congress urging the passage of the Lewis and Clark fair appropriation bill, which is now pending.

The upper house also adjourned out of respect to the memory of Representative Murphy.

MANY LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Fully a Ton of Childish Epistles Received at New York Office.

New York, Dec. 21.—Letters addressed by children to Santa Claus are reaching the postoffice here in larger numbers this year than ever before. They come from all parts of the country even Alaska. The childish petitions are carefully set aside and will be forwarded to the dead letter office at Washington. The collection will weigh at least a ton and is double the quantity received any previous year.

FORTUNE AWAITS THIS MAN.

William Lancaster May Secure \$100,000 by Writing to New York.

New York, Dec. 21.—A far-reaching search has been instituted for some trace of William Lancaster, formerly of Paterson, N. J., who has not been heard from since 1897, when he was employed as a civil engineer in San Francisco. A fortune of \$100,000 is tied up in the courts awaiting his appearance or proof of death.

Lancaster's father was an official of a locomotive plant in Paterson. He died in 1898, the estate passing to the elder son. The latter also died a few days ago after vain efforts to locate his brother.

Guy P. Halferty, of Markham, Wash., arrived down from Portland today where he has been visiting for some days. Mr. Halferty will spend Christmas in this section.

Mrs. A. Dawson, Jr., Miss Nellie Halferty, Miss Halgrimson and Miss Olive Halgrimson were in the city today from the west side.

COLOMBIA'S STERN DUTY

Secretary Moody Says She Must Take the Initiative in Her Difficulties.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR

Caribbean Sea Battalion Scheduled to Sail From Philadelphia Between Christmas Day and the First of the Year.

Washington, Dec. 21.—"Let Colombia take the initiative" is the keynote instructions which Secretary Moody has cabled to the American naval commanders in Isthmian waters. It was announced that while the situation on the isthmus was in no way alarming to the Washington government, it was sufficiently delicate to warrant the most careful and diplomatic handling and for this reason, secrecy has been enjoined upon officials of the department regarding operations of ships and marines. At a conference held this afternoon between Secretary Moody and Brigadier-General Elliott, the latter reported that upon 24 hours notice he could get under way to Colon with a new Caribbean sea battalion which is under orders to assemble at Philadelphia. This battalion will probably sail between December 25 and January 1. Gen. Elliott has been informed that unless the Isthmian situation enters upon a decidedly more peaceful phase in the meantime he will command this battalion and upon his arrival will organize three battalions of marines on the isthmus into a brigade of which he shall have supreme command.

The program formulated for the entertainment by the pupils of the Convent of Holy Names, at Fishers' Opera House tomorrow evening, will be found below. It is, as will be seen, a very attractive one, and as great care has been taken in its preparation. There is no doubt about its successful presentation. It is quite safe to say that all who attend will come away with hearts full of feelings of pleasure that Astoria has such an institution as the Convent

of the Holy Names.

THE PROGRAM.

Don Juan—Mozart Orchestra
The Tables Turned Operetta
Second Valse—Godard Pianos
"Gertrude's Triumph"—A drama in three acts.

Act 1.
Happy Days Vocal Quartette
Act 2.
Cavatina—Raff Violin
Miss Frederickson, x
Act 3.
Moon Moths—Kussner Pianos
Little Walters.
Christmas Souvenir Orchestra
The Heralds of Heaven.
Tableaux.
A. M. D. G.

Will Sherman arrived in the city today from Billingham, Wash., where he is in business.

Lower Court Is Sustained

Decision of Supreme Tribunal Handed Down in Referendum Case.

Salem Dec. 21.—(Special)—The supreme court today handed down an opinion in the case of Kadderly vs. the city of Portland, in which the validity of the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution was involved. The decision confirms the ruling of the lower court, holding in substance that the amendment to the constitution was legally proposed and properly adopted, and that it is the province of the legislature, and not of the courts, to declare an emergency.

RUSSIA MUST RECONSIDER.

Japan Not Satisfied With Czar's Reply to Her Overtures.

New York, Dec. 21.—It is generally understood that Japan asks Russia to reconsider her reply, says a dispatch to the Times from Tokio.

The reply contained no tangible concession, inasmuch as it excluded Japan altogether from the Manchurian question and proposed an equal position for the two powers in Korea.

C. W. White, the Warrenton merchant, was in the city today.

If you want anything good go to Dunbar's the cheapest store in Astoria for fine goods

Grand Opening Display

OF

Christmas Novelties

THIS WEEK

The A. Dunbar Co.